

**To:** Ostrander, David[Ostrander.David@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Jenkins, Laura Flynn[Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov]  
**From:** Barry, Michael  
**Sent:** Tue 9/29/2015 11:34:53 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Request for EPA Official to Speak at CWOA on Thurs 10/1

Yes I will, thanks for the quick reply. I expected this though I think it was a good opportunity, I got the sense they were looking more for learning from us than even a lessons learned. But I understand of course and will be diplomatic. Since the request came from La Plata County I'll brief Laura about it tomorrow morning (she is at the mine now) and we/I/she will call first then follow-up with an email.

I'll let you know when we have closed the loop.

Cheers,

Mike

Mike Barry | Cell: 617.680.5466 | barry.michael@epa.gov

9/24 – 10/7/2015:

Incident Commander

Gold King Mine Response

Durango, CO

Permanent:

Team Leader On-Scene Coordinator,

Emergency Response & Planning Branch

EPA Region 1, 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OSRR02-2), Boston, MA, 02109

**From:** Ostrander, David  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2015 5:30 PM  
**To:** Barry, Michael <Barry.Michael@epa.gov>

**Subject:** FW: Request for EPA Official to Speak at CWOA on Thurs 10/1

This is the official response. Can you communicate this back to the water group and express our apologies.

Thanks

**From:** McGrath, Shaun  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2015 5:25 PM  
**To:** Card, Joan; Ostrander, David; R8 GKM Working Group  
**Subject:** RE: Request for EPA Official to Speak at CWOA on Thurs 10/1

I agree with Joan. We should hold off until after we have the Independent Reviews and until we have fully considered our message. It might be good to discuss a process in the LT (coordinating with IC and HQ) for considering the various invitations that are coming in.

**From:** Card, Joan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2015 4:53 PM  
**To:** Ostrander, David; R8 GKM Working Group  
**Subject:** RE: Request for EPA Official to Speak at CWOA on Thurs 10/1

My thoughts: We have received a number of these types of speaking requests and have not accepted them to date. Generally, people want to hear and talk about "lessons learned" and we're not there yet. The Administrator has been clear that the DOI Independent Review will be instructive to us about what happened and lessons learned. Also, Mathy has issued the memo requesting review and strengthening of notifications by December 31, 2015, so that's pending.

Shaun?

**From:** Ostrander, David  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2015 3:01 PM  
**To:** R8 GKM Working Group  
**Subject:** FW: Request for EPA Official to Speak at CWOA on Thurs 10/1

**Importance:** High

This is happening Thursday so we can't discuss at our meeting. This is one of many groups who really want to hear from EPA but we continue to be silent because of the sensitive nature of this incident. I would like to talk more at the meeting but we need an answer for Mike asap.

Shaun/Joan, your thoughts/response?

**From:** Barry, Michael

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2015 2:58 PM

**To:** Ostrander, David; Jenkins, Laura Flynn; Peterson, Cynthia

**Subject:** FW: Request for EPA Official to Speak at CWOA on Thurs 10/1

**Importance:** High

Hi all,

(Steve Way BC'd for awareness, but to shield from email chains)

I've gotten a request for EPA to present a 15 -30 minute session at a meeting of the Colorado Water Officials Association meeting here in Durango on this Thursday at 0830.

This was forwarded to me today by Tom McNamara at La Plata. Invitation and agenda attached.

This is a meeting of Water System Officials from the entire state. It isn't an open or public meeting.

The focus of the talk is for professional education for the water officials so they can think about what to do in case of an event like this in their watershed and how it could impact their system.

They would be interested just the nuts and bolts of what happened, the challenges in notifying stakeholders nearby and remote and matters such as this.

I've made no commitments, but to raise this issue to the R8 GKM Working Group. This seems like a great opportunity to present to a professional group, and recommend we accommodate the invitation if possible.

If approved I think it would be best if an R8 person familiar with the release present and be accompanied by the ICP PIO/LNO coordinator, or other R8 CIC/LNO personnel. I will canvass personnel within the ICP and Gladstone on their potential knowledge and availability in event this is approved.

Thanks,

Mike

Mike Barry | Cell: 617.680.5466 | [barry.michael@epa.gov](mailto:barry.michael@epa.gov)

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**From:** Thomas McNamara [<mailto:Thomas.McNamara@co.laplata.co.us>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2015 11:14 AM

**To:** Barry, Michael <[Barry.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Barry.Michael@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** [david.hofmann@state.co.us](mailto:david.hofmann@state.co.us); Butch Knowlton <[Butch.Knowlton@co.laplata.co.us](mailto:Butch.Knowlton@co.laplata.co.us)>  
**Subject:** FW: CWOA

Mike,

I was informed that several weeks ago, an invitation was made by the Colorado Water Officials Association to the EPA to speak at their annual conference which is being held locally. The request likely went through the Enviro Group at some point in the past and the promise was made by the EPA to participate. The EPA was expected to be speaking on Thursday. Butch Knowlton, La Plata County Emergency Manager, will be speaking about the high water incident on the Pine River from earlier in the Summer.

Someone needs to contact David Hoffman today. He is a State Water Engineer and the Pine River Water Commissioner for the Colorado State Department of Natural Resources. I'm assuming someone from the environmental group would be the best to explain the incident to the water users. If David Christenson is back in town, he may be a great choice given his knowledge of the area and of the early stages of the incident (and the short notice).

Please call David Hoffman at 970 769 1928 to work out the details. The agenda is attached and below.

Tom McNamara  
*Emergency Management Coordinator*  
La Plata County Government  
1060 East 2nd Ave.  
Durango, CO 81301  
970-382-6275 Office  
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[mcnamaratr@co.laplata.co.us](mailto:mcnamaratr@co.laplata.co.us)

Follow on Twitter: @LPC\_OEM

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Incident and Education blog: [www.laplatacountyoe.blogspot.com](http://www.laplatacountyoe.blogspot.com)

Sign up for cell evacuation notices, follow links on:

[www.co.laplata.co.us/emergency](http://www.co.laplata.co.us/emergency)

# CWOA

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA

Timeline subject to some changes

### Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>

7:30-8:15am Breakfast and registration packets

8:15-8:30am Welcome

Tribute to Richard Rozman

8:30-10:15am Speakers

Montezuma County Sheriff – Water Enforcement

EPA – La Plata County Emergency Management – Animas River Spill

10:15-10:30am Break

10:30-12:15pm Speakers

Chris Landry - Dust on Snow

Brent Bernard - NOAA Forecast Center

Zach Schwalbe – Colorado Climate Center, Colorado State University

12:15-1:30pm Lunch

Anna Mauss – CWCB Water Projects

Jeff Lucas - Speaker Climate change effect on Colorado

1:30-2:30pm Panel Discussion of Speakers

2:30-3:00pm Cookie Break and Travel Time

3:00-5:30pm Rodeo Training